

## CLAIMS

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1. A battery powered electronic system comprising:
    - (a) a portable battery powered utilization device for operating from battery power during portable operation thereof; and
    - (b) a battery pack having memory, ~~operatively coupled with said utilization device~~ *operatively coupled with said utilization device* for supplying operating power and battery data to said utilization device.
  2. The battery powered electronic system according to claim 1 wherein said battery pack having memory comprises:
    - (a) a plurality of electrochemical cells for providing power to said utilization device at a first voltage;
    - (b) an electronic memory device having a communications interface for communicating battery data to said utilization device wherein said electrochemical cells power said memory device at a second voltage; and
    - (c) a voltage ~~clamping device~~ *clamp* operatively connected to said communications interface ~~for clamping~~ for protecting said electronic memory device from electrostatic discharge.
  3. The battery pack having memory of claim 2 wherein said electronic memory device includes volatile memory.
  4. The battery pack having memory of claim 2 wherein said electronic memory device includes nonvolatile memory.
  5. The battery pack having memory of claim 2 wherein said electronic memory system includes a combination of volatile and nonvolatile memory.

5 6. A method of providing operational power to a battery powered utilization device, said method comprising:

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- (a) monitoring operational battery pack characteristics;
  - (b) storing said characteristics in an electronic memory device contained within said battery pack as battery pack data;
  - (c) monitoring present battery pack conditions;
  - (d) retrieving said battery pack data;
  - (e) communicating said present battery pack conditions and said battery pack data to said battery powered utilization device; and
  - (f) controlling the utilization of said battery pack by said battery powered utilization device.

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9. A method of manufacturing a battery pack having memory comprising:
- (a) permanently affixing a plurality electrical conductors interconnectively to a plurality of electrochemical cells thereby forming a battery;
  - (b) temporarily affixing electronic components to said electrical conductors;
  - (c) clamping said electrical conductors at a predetermined electrical potential; and
  - (d) permanently affixing said electronic components to said electrical conductors.

10. A battery pack having memory manufactured according to the method as recited in claim 9.

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